

OBJECT ORIENTED INFORMATION RETRIEVAL FRAMEWORK MECHANISM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A framework for use with object-oriented programming systems provides a
reusable object oriented (OO) framework for use with object oriented programming
systems that provides an information retrieval (IR) shell that permits a framework user to
define an index class that includes word index objects and provides an extensible
information retrieval system that evaluates a user query by comparing information
contained in the user query with information contained in the word index objects that
relates to stored documents. The information in word index objects is produced by
10 preprocessing operations on documents such that the documents relevant to the user
query will be identified, thereby providing a query result. The information retrieval
system user can load documents into the computer system storage, index documents so
their information can be subject to a query search, and request query evaluation to
identify and retrieve documents most closely related to the subject matter of a user query.